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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/633,373	SON, KEITH	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jasjit S. Vidwan	2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/30/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-5, 7-18, 20-22, 24-31, 33-37 (now renumbered 1-32).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                                             |                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                                            | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                     |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                        | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/23/07</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                  | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|                                                                                                                             | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                               |

**DETAILED ACTION**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chui-kiu Teresa Wong on August 22, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

- (a) For Claim 1, Line 8, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...control selection of one of at least two paths,"
- (b) For Claim 5, Line 7, replace - - back plane - - with - - backplane - -
- (c) For Claim 5, Line 9, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...in response to a switching signal,"
- (d) For Claim 9, Line 7, replace - - back plane - - with - - backplane - -
- (e) For Claim 9, Line 18, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...and emitting a set of serial ATA disk drive signals,"
- (f) For Claim 14, Line 9, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...in response to a switching signal,"
- (g) For Claim 18, Line 11, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...the ATA disk drive coupling element,"
- (h) For Claim 22, Line 9, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...in response to a switching signal,"
- (i) For Claim 26, Line 17, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...emitting a set of serial ATA disk drive signals,"

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- (j) For Claim 31, Line 6, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...select one out of at least two paths,"
- (k) For Claim 36, Line 8, insert - - wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements - - after "...select one of at least two paths,"
- (l) For Claims 38-44, (Cancelled)

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Prior art of record either taken individually or in combination with other art fails to teach an adaptor in housing, said adaptor including an ATA disk drive coupling element and at least two fiber channel backplane coupling elements and a programmable switch coupled to said fiber channel backplane coupling elements to control selection of one of at least two paths, wherein at least one of said at least two paths is connected to one of said fiber channel backplane coupling elements, wherein the ATA disk drive is coupled to a fiber channel backplane via a selected one of the at least two paths without physically removing the ATA disk drive from the disk drive housing. Furthermore, prior art fails to teach a serial-to-parallel converter and a parallel-to-serial converter on each of the two respective paths wherein the conversion is from the ATA disk to fiber channel backplane.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jasjit S. Vidwan whose telephone number is (571) 272-7936. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, KIM HUYNH can be reached on (571) 272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JSV  
8/31/07



KIM HUYNH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

8/31/07